

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /106 W

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P R 06100930Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8307

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 4879

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, USUN, BG, KS

SUBJ: KOREAN QUESTION IN THE UN

REF: STATE 236681

1. ALTHOUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS CLOSED TODAY FOR OFFICIAL HOLIDAY, FOREIGN SECRETARY FAKHRUDDIN AHMED CAME IN TO MEET WITH AMBASSADOR SO THAT HE COULD CARRY OUT REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS ON KOREAN QUESTION. IN FACT FOREIGN SECRETARY HAD GUESSED THAT KOREAN ISSUE HAD MOTIVATED OUR URGENT REQUEST TO SEE HIM AND HAD ALSO CALLED IN ABDUL AHSAN, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TO BE PRESENT.

2. AMBASSADOR TOLD FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT FACT THAT THIS WAS THIRD APPROACH TO MINISTRY ON THIS SUBJECT IN PAST TWO WEEKS SHOULD HELP MAKE CLEAR THE UNUSUAL IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHED TO THE MATTER. AMBASSADOR REFERRED AGAIN TO THEIR VOTE IN GENERAL COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 17 AND EXPLAINED SIGNIFICANCE OF "PROCEDURAL" DECISIONS REACHED THERE, NOTING DETRIMENTAL EFFECT OF BANGLADESH'S VOTING ON OUR POSITION, DAMAGE WHICH WE HOPED COULD BE REPAIRED BY BDG'S SUBSEQUENT VOTING.

3. AMBOASSADOR INFORMED HIM THAT FIRST COMMITTEE WAS EXPECTED
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TO MEET SOON ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO URGE THAT BDG DELEGATION BE INSTRUCTED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF PRIORITY FOR OUR RESOLUTION ON KOREA WHEN THE VOTE CAME, POSSIBLY EARLY THIS WEEK, POINTING OUT THAT OUR RESOLUTION HAD BEEN SUBMITTED FIVE WEEKS AHEAD OF OTHER RESOLUTION AND CLEARLY DESERVED PRIORITY.

4. NOTING THAT IS WAS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO US THAT BANGLADESH OPPOSE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION, AMBASSADOR STATED THAT WE ARE PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION TO VOTES OF OUR FRIENDS ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT OUTCOME COULD HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL EFFECT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. AMBASSADOR SUMMARIZED ONCE AGAIN OUR ARGUMENTS AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION.

5. FOREIGN SECRETARY SIAD THAT, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER 26 MEETING WHEN AMBASSADOR HAD LAST DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH HIM, HE HAD SENT TELEGRAM TO THEIR UN DELEGATION REQUESTING THEM TO BE GUIDED IN THEIR GENERAL APPROACH TO KOREAN ISSUE BY PRINCIPLE OF NOT TAKING POSITIONS IN WHICH BANGLADESH WOULD BE SEEN TO BE TAKING SIDES ON THIS ISSUE. HE SAID HE WOULD REPEAT, AS HE HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR DURING LAST MEETING, THAT BDG HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS AND WOULD NOT WANT TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST EITHER SIDE. IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH EACH COUNTRY THEY WISHED TO AVOID ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT PREJUDICE THEIR RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WITH WHOM THEY ALSO ENJOYED FRIENDLY BILATERAL RELATIONS. AMBASSADOR SAID HE APPRECIATED KNOWING ABOUT INSTRUCTIONS ALREADY SENT AND HOPED FOREIGN SECRETARY WOULD NOW BE ABLE TO SEND NEW INSTRUCTIONS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIONS MADE TO HIM TODAY. FOREIGN SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF A SECOND MESSAGE.

6 COMMENT. WE THINK WE CAN EXPECT WITH SOME CONFIDENCE THAT BDG'S FUTURE VOTING ON KOREA WILL BE STRICTLY NEUTRAL. FOREIGN SECRETARY UNMISTAKABLY UNDERSTANDS HOW SERIOUSLY WE REGARD THEIR VOTE ON THIS MATTER, AND THIS SHOULD DISSUADE THEM FROM SHOWING BIAS TOWARD NORTH KOREA AGAIN. WE WOULD BE SURPRISED, HOWEVER, IF BDG TOOK THE FURTHER STEP OF LINING UP OVERTLY WITH US AGAINST NORTH KOREA, A STEP WHICH WOULD MARK A STRIKING DEPARTURE FROM THEIR GENERAL STANCE.

7. WE DETECT POSSIBLE CONFUSION IN DEPARTMENT'S MIND ABOUT RECORD
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OF OUR APPROACHES HERE AS IT ASKS IN STATE'S 236681 FOR REPORT ON FOLLOW UP MEETING FOREIGN SECRETARY. IN WAS THIS FOLLOW-UP APPROACH BY AMBASSADOR ON SEPTEMBER 26 WHICH WAS REPORTED IN DACCA'S 4767 AND WHICH WAS TAKEOFF POINT FOR USUN'S MESSAGE (4692) SUGGESTING THAT WE BE INSTRUCTED TO APPROACH FOREIGN

SECRETARY AS WE DID AGAIN TODAY. THUS THE RECORD IS AS FOLLOWS:

1) POLITICAL COUSELLOR CALLED ON DIRECTOR-GENERAL ABDUL BARI
SEPTEMBER 24 (DACCA 4734); 2) POLITICAL COUNSELLOR FURNISHED
BARI WITH ADDITIONAL WRITTEN SUMMARY OF RESPECTIVE POSITIONS OF
US AND DPRK ON KOREAN ISSUE SEPTEMBER 25; 3) AMBASSADOR SPOKE
TO FOREIGN SECRETARY SEPTEMBER 26 TO REINFORCE POLITICAL
COUNSELLOR'S APPROACH (DACCA'S 4767); AND 4) TODAY'S
DEMARCHE BY AMBASSADOR TO FOREIGN SECRETARY AS REPORTED HEREIN.
BOSTER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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